

Message Text

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ACTION DIWY-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7642

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, OTRA, A

SUBJ: WCIWY - REPORTED MEXICAN INVITATIONS TO WIVES OF CHIEFS OF
STATE TO ATTEND WOMEN'S YEAR CONFERENCE

1. RUMORS HAVE CIRCULATED LOCALLY THAT MRS. ECHEVERRIA HAS
ISSUED INVITATIONS TO VARIOUS WIVES OF CHIEFS OF STATE/HEADS
OF GOVERNMENT TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR CONFERENCE
(JUNE 19 - JULY 2) AS HER SPECIAL GUESTS. AMONG THOSE SAID
TO HAVE BEEN INVITED ARE WIVES OF PRESIDENT SADAT (WHO
REPORTEDLY WILL ATTEND) AND OF PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU (WHO
DECLINED). IN ADDITION, A SPECIAL INVITATION WAS REPORTEDLY
EXTENDED TO PRES. MARIA ESTELA PERON OF ARGENTINA.

2. EMBASSY HAS ATTEMPTED TO VERIFY THESE REPORTS AT FONSEC
AND AT PRESIDENCY AND HAS COME UP WITH SOMEWHAT CONFLICTING
RESPONSES. FONSEC OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR WCIWY PLANNING
STATED FLATLY THAT REPORTS WERE NOTHING MORE THAN RUMORS,
PROBABLY BASED ON FACT THAT SOME SUCH VIP WOMEN (INCLUDING
MRS. SADAT AND PRES. PERON) WILL ATTEND CONFERENCE NOT RPT
NOT AS ECHEVERRIA GUESTS BUT AS HEADS OF THEIR COUNTRIES'
DELEGATIONS. THIS OFFICIAL ASSURED EMBOFF THAT THERE
WERE AT PRESENT TO PLANS TO ISSUE SEPARATE GOM INVITATIONS
TO HIGH-RANKING WIVES.

3. ON OTHER HAND, SOURCE AT PRESIDENCY WHO IS CLOSE TO
MRS. ECHEVERRIA IMPLIED THAT CONSIDERATION WAS IN FACT
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BEING GIVEN TO ISSUING SUCH INVITATIONS BUT SAID THAT NO

DECISION HAD YET BEEN REACHED ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. THE LATTER PROMISED TO ADVISE US AS SOON AS ANYTHING FIRM WAS DECIDED. IN THE MEANTIME, THE CANADIAN AMBASSADOR HAS TOLD US THAT MRS. TRUDEAU WAS INDEED INVITED AS A PERSONAL GUEST.

4. COMMENT: IT IS DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE THAT EVEN THE ECHEVERRIAS COULD ATTEMPT TO PLAY HOST TO SPOUSES OF ALL CHIEFS OF STATES TAKING PART IN WCIWY, OR ON THE OTHER HAND THAT THEY WOULD INVITE ONLY A FEW SELECT GUESTS AND THUS SNUB THE REST. HOWEVER, IN MEXICO ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE, SAYS THE PROVERB.
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